SC Connections Academy

220 Stoneridge Drive,
Columbia, SC 29210

Grades	K-12 High School	
Enrollment	590 Students	
Principal	Allison Reaves	803-212-4712
Superintendent	Dr. Wayne Brazell	803-734-8322
Board Chair	Don McLaurin	843-720-1268

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
2009 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2009	**N/A**	**N/A**
2008	N/A	N/A
2007	N/A	N/A
2006	N/A	N/A
2005	N/A	N/A

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent − School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good − School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average − School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average − School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk − School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

http://ed.sc.gov
http://www.eoc.sc.gov

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
0	0	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/05/2010.

High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Exam Passage Rate: Second Year Students

	Our High School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Passed 2 subtests (%)	N/A	N/A	73.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Passed 1 subtest (%)	N/A	N/A	14.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Passed no subtests (%)	N/A	N/A	11.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2009

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Percent	N/A	N/A

On-Time Graduation Rate

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Number of Students	30	N/A
Number of Diplomas	13	N/A
Rate	43.3%	N/A

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours*
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	59.0	N/A
English 1	76.6	N/A
Physical Science	46.2	N/A
US History and the Constitution	55.3	N/A
All Tests	64.3	N/A

* High Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable   N/AV–Not Available   N/C–Not Collected   N/R–Not Reported   I/S–Insufficient Sample

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n=590)				
Retention rate	6.2%	N/A	N/A	4.8%
Attendance rate	96.8%	N/A	N/A	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	15.6%	N/A	N/A	9.2%
With disabilities other than speech	8.0%	N/A	N/A	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	7.4%	N/A	N/A	8.6%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	N/R	N/A	1.2%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	16.8%	N/R	N/A	13.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	55.6%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	21.4%	N/R	N/A	29.8%
Annual dropout rate	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.5%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	0.0%	N/A	N/A	3.0%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	602	N/A	N/A	523
Students participating in work-based experiences	0.0%	N/A	N/A	12.9%
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	N/A	N/A	N/A	79.3%
Career/technology completers placed	N/A	N/A	N/A	98.8%
Teachers (n=13)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	46.2%	N/A	N/A	58.6%
Continuing contract teachers	30.8%	N/A	N/A	71.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	14.3%	N/A	N/A	8.1%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	N/A	85.0%
Teacher attendance rate	N/R	N/R	N/A	95.5%
Average teacher salary*	$37,423	I/S	N/A	$47,761
Professional development days/teacher	11.4 days	N/R	N/A	10.8 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	N/R	N/A	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	N/R	N/R	N/A	26.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	N/R	N/R	N/A	89.8%
Dollars spent per pupil**	N/A	N/A	N/A	$7,883
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	N/A	N/A	N/A	54.1%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	N/A	N/A	N/A	60.2%
Opportunities in the arts	Fair	N/R	N/A	Excellent
SACS accreditation	No	N/R	N/A	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	N/R	N/A	95.8%
Character development program	Below Average	N/R	N/A	Good
Modern language program assessment	N/A	N/A	N/A	Average
Classical language program assessment	N/A	N/A	N/A	Good

*   Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

**   Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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Performance By Student Groups

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2009		End of Course Passage Rate		Graduation Rate		
	n	%	t	%	n	%	Met State Objective
All Students	N/A	N/A	154	64.3%	30	43.3%	No
Gender							
Male	N/A	N/A	63	66.7%	10	40.0%	N/A
Female	N/A	N/A	91	62.6%	20	45.0%	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	N/A	N/A	118	71.2%	24	45.8%	N/A
Africian American	N/A	N/A	25	32.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status							
Disabled	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Migrant Status							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	N/A	N/A	66	56.1%	12	33.3%	N/A

NOTE: n=number of students on which percentage is calculated; t=number of tests taken.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA) is a new public virtual charter school that opened during the 2008-2009 school year as a member of the South Carolina Public Charter School District. SCCA offers a premier online education to children in grades K-12 regardless of where they reside in the state. Our curriculum meets national and state standards while simultaneously meeting the personal needs of all of our students. Students progress through the program under the guidance of their Learning Coach (typically a parent or guardian) in conjunction with their highly qualified South Carolina certified teachers. Regular interaction occurs via phone, email, and live web conferences. Student work is then submitted online for teacher review. Our user friendly Learning Management System (LMS) includes coursework, a daily planner, a grade book, attendance recorder, communication tools, a virtual library, messages boards, and supplemental learning programs. The LMS provides all the necessary information, at your fingertips, to successfully learn anywhere there is an internet connection. This unique system sets us apart from all other virtual charter schools.

SCCA offers advanced curriculum to Gifted and Talented students in grades 3 through 8 Science, Math and Language Arts. These students participate in a Literature Study course using the Junior Great Books series. Teachers in our Special Education Department serve their students using the inclusion model to meet their needs in the least restrictive environment.

Our high school program includes approximately 300 students across the state. The selection of courses we offer is varied and challenging. Students are able to study Foreign Languages such as Mandarin Chinese, Latin, French, and Spanish. We also offer 20 Advanced Placement courses and a variety of college preparatory electives. Our graduation requirements are more rigorous than the state mandates. SCCA requires all students to successfully complete two years of foreign languages or humanities. In addition, a full year of health and a full year of American Government are required.

In an effort to create a sense of community, various field trips were planned statewide. This allowed students, parents, and teachers to interact face-to-face. Over thirty opportunities were held during the 2008-2009 school year including museum, zoo, and aquarium tours; environmental awareness activities; Mad Science interactive labs; and two arts festivals featuring student work.

Don Brown

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with learning environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	N/A	N/A	N/A

*   Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade eleven, only the highest grade was included.

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School Adequate Yearly Progress   NO

This school met 17 out of 19 objectives. The objectives included student performance, graduation rate or student attendance, and participation in the state testing program.

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for "All Students" and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as meeting the statewide target for "All Students" for attendance or graduation rate.

School Improvement Status   N/A

School Improvement Key

NI	Newly Identified-The school missed adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two years. Sanction: Offer school choice.
CSI	Continuing School Improvement-The school missed AYP for three years. Sanctions: Continue school choice and implement supplemental services.
CA	Corrective Action-The school missed AYP for four years. Sanction: Continue school choice and supplemental services. The school district takes a corrective action.
RP	Plan to Restructure-Sanctions: Continue school choice and supplemental services. Develop a plan to restructure. If the school misses AYP the next year, the school implements the restructuring plan.
R	Restructure-The school missed AYP after two years of corrective action. Sanctions: Implement the restructuring plan. Continue school choice and supplemental services.
DELAY	The school met AYP in all subgroups and the indicator for one year, thus the delay provision applies. The school remains in the same status as last year and is referred to as in "Delay."
HOLD	The school made progress for one year in the subject area that identified the school for school improvement. The school remains in the same status as last year and is referred to as in "Hold."

Teacher Quality Data

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	1.7%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	5.8%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	35.8%	0.0%	No

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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HSAP Performance By Group

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	School % Proficient or Advanced*	District % Proficient or Advanced*	State % Proficient or Advanced*	Performance Objective Met	Participation Objective Met
English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 71.3% (Proficient or Advanced)											
All Students	45	93.3	8	32	28	32	68	65.6	61.8	Yes	Yes
Male	18	94.4	14.3	42.9	35.7	7.1	57.1	57.4	57.4	N/A	N/A
Female	27	92.6	0	18.2	18.2	63.6	81.8	71.4	66.1	N/A	N/A
White	36	91.7	5	25	35	35	75	69.7	74.3	Yes	Yes
Africian American	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	41.7	44.9	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	77.4	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	50.3	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	55.4	I/S	I/S
Disabled	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	19.4	I/S	Yes
Migrant	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	I/S	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	38.5	I/S	I/S
Subsized meals	26	96.2	16.7	33.3	25	25	66.7	65.6	45.6	Yes	Yes
Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 70.0% (Proficient or Advanced)											
All Students	45	91.1	12.5	29.2	29.2	29.2	58.3	56.3	62.7	Yes	Yes
Male	18	94.4	14.3	28.6	35.7	21.4	57.1	58.5	61.8	N/A	N/A
Female	27	88.9	10	30	20	40	60	54.7	63.6	N/A	N/A
White	36	88.9	10.5	26.3	26.3	36.8	63.2	63.5	75.1	Yes	Yes
Africian American	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	20.8	45.1	No	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	83.8	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	58.5	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	59.2	I/S	I/S
Disabled	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	21.8	I/S	Yes
Migrant	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	I/S	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	52.3	I/S	I/S
Subsized meals	26	92.3	27.3	18.2	45.5	9.1	54.5	55.6	47.9	Yes	Yes

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	School % Proficient or Advanced*	District % Proficient or Advanced*	State % Proficient or Advanced*	Performance Objective Met	Participation Objective Met
Physical Science (End-of-Course Test performance by Group)											
All Students	45	42.2	26.7	6.7	4.4	4.4	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Male	18	44.4	33.3	5.6	5.6	N/A	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Female	27	40.7	22.2	7.4	3.7	7.4	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	36	44.4	27.8	8.3	5.6	2.8	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Africian American	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Migrant	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsized meals	26	34.6	30.8	3.8	N/A	N/A	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable   N/AV–Not Available   N/C–Not Collected   N/R–Not Reported   I/S–Insufficient Sample

Two-Year HSAP Trend Data

	School Year	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	School % Proficient or Advanced*	District % Proficient or Advanced*	State % Proficient or Advanced*
English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 71.3% (Proficient or Advanced)										
All Students	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	45	93.3	8	32	28	32	68	65.6	61.8
Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 70.0% (Proficient or Advanced)										
All Students	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	45	91.1	12.5	29.2	29.2	29.2	58.3	56.3	62.7

* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable   N/AV–Not Available   N/C–Not Collected   N/R–Not Reported   I/S–Insufficient Sample